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GROUP 3600

EXHIBIT "A"



Reinforcing ridge 10 simply and inexpensively joins unjoined edge 16 with unjoined edge 20 without the need of welding, screws, bolts or the like. An important resulting advantage from reinforcing ridge 10 is that, as illustrated in FIGURE 1, an automatic joining device such as a pneumatic gun shooting nails 24, for example, can be utilized without collapsing rigid material 12. FIGURE 1 shows nail 24 as having been shot through two sides, 23 and 25, of rigid material 12. Obviously, the usual intended purpose is to join rigid material 12, as illustrated in FIGURE 1, with another section of rigid material 12, not shown. Assuming the second section of rigid material 12 also includes reinforcing ridge 10, the results are the same. That is, the sides, 23 and 25, of rigid material 12 are reinforced by reinforcing ridge 10 so as to resist collapse and enable use of an automatic joining device. Obviously the advantages of the invention are not limited to the use of a nail gun but also easily accommodate other automatic joining methods such as screws, for example.